



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Effigy Mounds
National Monument

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Effigy Mounds News Release

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4th Annual Prairie du Chien - *Bald Eagle Appreciation Day*

Come and enjoy bald eagles and the other wonderful natural resources of the Upper Mississippi River during Prairie du Chien Bald Eagle Appreciation Day on Saturday, February 23, 2008, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Event activities will be centered along the Mississippi River at the location of the Wisconsin Welcome Center, 211 S Main Street, and the adjacent AmericInn Lodge and Suites. Ken Block, Chief Ranger at Effigy Mounds National Monument, touted Bald Eagle Day as a “great way to introduce you to the amazing year-round outdoor recreational and educational opportunities of the Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin & McGregor / Marquette, Iowa region located along the Mississippi River - in the heart of the Upper Mississippi Wildlife and Fish Refuge.”

Live bald eagle programs will be presented by staff of the National Eagle Center in Wabasha, Minnesota, at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. in the lobby of the AmericInn. In between these programs, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., a special presentation of “Lessons from the Eagle,” will be given by Jon “Hawk” Stravers of the Audubon Society - Upper Mississippi River Initiative. Brett Mandernack, Manager, Eagle Valley Nature Reserve, will present his research “Satellite Tracking Bald Eagles in the Upper Midwest” from 10:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Pat Schlarbaum, Iowa DNR Wildlife biologist, and other personnel from the Iowa DNR, Wisconsin DNR, National Park Service and Fish & Wildlife Service will staff the viewing points – including other nearby bald eagle watching locations. Educational exhibits and activities will include agency displays, children’s craft activities, a life-size eagle nest replica (weather depending), and artwork and photography by local artists and students. Educational books and other items from the Eastern National bookstore at Effigy Mounds will be on sale.

For more information, contact the Prairie du Chien Chamber of Commerce / Tourism Council at 800-732-1673, www.prairieduchien.org, pdccoc@mhtc.net; or Effigy Mounds National Monument, 563-873-3491, www.nps.gov/efmo, kenneth_block@nps.gov

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Bald Eagle Appreciation Day

Program Times:

Location: AmericInn Lobby & Conference Room

- **10:00 - 10:30 AM:** Brett Mandernack, Manager, Eagle Valley Nature Reserve with “Satellite Tracking Bald Eagles in the Upper Midwest”
- **10:30 AM - 11:30 PM:** Live Bald Eagle Program by the National Eagle Center Staff
- **11:30 PM - 12:30 PM:** Jon “Hawk” Stravers, Audubon Society - Upper Mississippi River initiative - Special Presentation: *Lessons from the Eagle*
- **12:30 -1:30 PM:** Live Bald Eagle Program by the National Eagle Center Staff

Events and Activities:

Birding experts will be on hand to answer questions, explain exhibits and assist with eagle watching. Maps & directions for self-guided field trips to other nearby eagle watching locations will be provided.

> Location: Wisconsin Welcome Center

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM:

- Outdoor viewing with spotting scopes & binoculars, indoor exhibits and artwork, children’s activities - include making stuffed eagle toys, educational sales items, and a bald eagle nest replica*

** If we are unable to transport the nest to Prairie du Chien due to weather conditions, the eagle’s nest will be available at Effigy Mounds National Monument’s visitor center.*

> Location: AmericInn Lobby & Conference Room

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM:

Indoor Natural History exhibits and artwork including:

- Tim Yager, USFWS Refuge Manager with exhibits on refuge resources including bald eagles, furbearers and endangered freshwater mussels.
- Brett Mandernack, Manager, Eagle Valley Nature Reserve with “Satellite Tracking Bald Eagles in the Upper Midwest”